

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY

January 2013 – Week 3

Air Date: January 13 – January 19 (Sunday – Saturday)



TITLE: POPEYE THE TEXAN

JANUARY 1929 AND A SAILOR MAN COMES TO TEXAS.

THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY, BROUGHT TO YOU BY THIS STATION AND THE SAVE TEXAS HISTORY PROGRAM OF THE GENERAL LAND OFFICE.

JANUARY 17, 1929. VICTORIA. TEN YEARS BEFORE, THE VICTORIA ADVOCATE HAD BEEN THE FIRST PAPER IN THE NATION TO PRINT A NEW CARTOON CALLED "THIMBLE THEATRE". CREATED IN NEW YORK BY ELZIE SEGAR, THE CARTOON WAS KNOWN FOR ITS COLORFUL CHARACTERS WITH UNUSUAL NAMES.

TODAY, A NEW CHARACTER APPEARS. A PIPE-SMOKING, SQUINT-EYED SAILOR WITH A FUNNY ACCENT NAMED POPEYE.

THE CHARACTER IS AN INSTANT HIT AND GROWS INTO A WORLDWIDE PHENOMENON.

THANKS TO THE ADVOCATE, POPEYE AND SEGAR GOT THEIR START IN VICTORIA. IN A SPECIAL 1934 CARTOON FOR THE PAPER'S ANNIVERSARY, POPEYE ACKNOWLEDGES THAT VICTORIA WAS INDEED "THA PLACE HE GOT BORN'D AT".

POPEYE THE TEXAN FIRST APPEARED 84 YEARS AGO, THIS WEEK IN TEXAS HISTORY.

LEARN MORE AT SAVETEXASHISTORY.ORG OR CALL 800-998-4GLO.

Craig H. Roell, "POPEYE," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/lxp02>), accessed January 03, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Geraldine F. Talley, "VICTORIA ADVOCATE," *Handbook of Texas Online* (<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/eev02>), accessed January 03, 2013. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

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